

which can be described as volcanic agglomerates whilst others are true quartz porphyries; in places they are many hundreds of feet thick. Underlying this is granite, which outcrops in some areas. There are also exposures of Ordovician, isolated small outcrops of basalt, and, to the south, some limestone. The steep mountainsides hold practically no soil and there is little alluvial deposition in river valleys.

The bare country absorbs little of the rainfall, which averages 30 inches per year, and the run-off causes a very rapid change of river rise and fall which is accentuated at the time of melting snow.

The northern slopes of the mountains are dry and open; the southern slopes are less dry and carry more scrub. In the high country (4,000 to 5,000 feet) there are large areas of Snow Grass (*Poa caespitosa*) and stands of Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*). The northern lower slopes carry White Gums (*Eucalyptus viminalis* and *E. rubida*) and Box (probably *Eucalyptus albens*), and have little or no ground cover though some areas have a sparse growth of the low-growing Tea Tree (*Leptospermum attenuatum*). The principal tree on the southern slopes is the Woollybutt (*Eucalyptus gigantea*). Still lower in the gullies is a varying amount of scrub including Blanket-leaf (*Bedfordia salicina*), Musk (*Olearia argophylla*), and several species of Tea Tree (*Leptospermum lanigerum*, *Baekea Gunniana*, and *Kunzia peduncularis*). In the deeper gully-heads, the scrub thickens to jungle proportions, and besides Blanket-leaf and Musk contains Lilly-pilly (*Eugenia Smithii*), Wire Grass (*Tetrarrhena juncea*) and Lianes including Clematis (*Clematis aristata*) and Supplejack (*Lyonsia straminea*).

Such a short, generalized outline of the country must necessarily leave many gaps, but is intended to present only an overall view which, as specific localities are more intensively worked, may be filled in.

PLANTS COLLECTED

We are indebted to Dr. R. T. Patton, Melbourne University, for the identification of botanical specimens.

Family GRAMINEAE

Genus POA

Poa caespitosa G. Forst.

Wombargo Tableland, 5,000 feet.

Family **LILIACEAE**Genus **DIANELLA***Dianella revoluta* R.Br.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **PROTEACEAE**Genus **LOMATIA***Lomatia longifolia* R.Br.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Genus **HAKEA***Hakea microcarpa* R.Br.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek.

Genus **GREVILLEA***Grevillea lanigera* A. Cunn.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek.

Family **RANUNCULACEAE**Genus **CLEMATIS***Clematis aristata* R.Br.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **LEGUMINOSAE**Genus **ACACIA***Acacia diffusa* Edwards.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek.

Acacia longifolia Willd.

Snowy River at Campbell's Nob.

Acacia dealbata Link.

Snowy River at Campbell's Nob; Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Genus **PULTENAEA***Pultenaea largiflorens* F. v. M.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek.

Family **RUTACEAE**Genus **CORREA***Correa rubra* Sm.

Murrindal Gorge, W. Tree.

Family **EUPHORBIACEAE**Genus **EUPHORBIA***Euphorbia Lathyris* L.

Snowy River at Campbell's Nob. (Introduced weed).

Genus **PHYLLANTHUS.***Phyllanthus Gunnii* Hk.

Murrindal Gorge, W. Tree.

Family **MYRTACEAE**Genus **LEPTOSPERMUM***Leptospermum attenuatum* Smith.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek; Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Leptospermum lanigerum Smith

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek.

Genus **KUNZEA***Kunzea peduncularis* F. v. M.

Snowy River at Campbell's Nob.

Genus **BAECKEA***Baeckea Gunniana* Schauer.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek; Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **ARALIACEAE**Genus **TIEGHEMOPANAX***Tieghemopanax sambucifolius* Vignier.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **EPACRIDACEAE**Genus **LEUCOPOGON***Leucopogon Hookeri* Sond.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek; Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **LABIATAE**Genus **PRUNELLA***Prunella vulgaris* L.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **SCROPHULARIACEAE**Genus **VERONICA***Veronica perfoliata* R.Br.

Junction of Little River and Wombargo Creek.

Veronica Derwentiana Andr.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **RUBIACEAE**Genus **COPROSMA***Coprosma hirtella* Labill.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

Family **COMPOSITAE**Genus **OLEARIA.***Olearia alpicola* F. v. M.

Wombargo Creek above 3,000 feet.

GEOLOGY*By Sylvia G. Whincup, M.Sc., Mineralogist.*

The area covered by this preliminary survey is a strip of country on the western side of the Snowy River, between Suggan Buggan in the north and W Tree in the south. A description of the geology of this area is included in the excellent reports by Howitt (2) and (4), who spent many months in northern Gippsland, and also by Ferguson (1). It is not felt that very much detailed geology can at present be added to these reports, as it was not possible to make more than a hurried visit to most of the localities mentioned. However some interesting, if somewhat disconnected, observations are recorded.

DESCRIPTION OF AREA.

Most of the rocks exposed in this area belong to the series known as the Snowy River Porphyries—these consist mainly of volcanic rocks of Lower Devonian age having a total thickness of some 2,000 feet. On the relatively flat-topped plateau between W Tree and Wulgulmerang, the porphyries are covered in places by remnants of Tertiary basalt flows. To the west, the land rises gradually to a ridge running north and south between Mt. Wom-